

# WASHINGTON.

"Unity and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1854.

The Hon. Lewis Cass delivered lately, in Michigan, public speech explanatory and defensive of his opinions and course in respect to domestic slavery, which opinions and course have lately been very severely censured, as unjust and inconsistent, by certain Southern presses formerly warm political supporters of Gen. Cass. As our journal circulates largely in the Southern States, we think it due to the Statesman and public servant, long a political favorite of the South, that we should add him to the list of the section to which he especially addresses himself, by inserting his speech in our paper. We may be moved in part to this act of courtesy by the feeling of "aud lang syne," when the eminent citizen stood with us in the Madisonian ranks, and gave his fine abilities and efficient labors to the cause of conservative republicanism. We therefore prefer before our readers so much of his speech as is reported in the Detroit Free Press, with the exception of one or two local references.

## THE POLITICAL REVOLUTION.

All the old parties have been somewhat surprised at the results of the elections held during the past year, and the ingenuity of the press has been sorely tested to account for the revolution. A single element is acknowledged to have been potent, and a single movement in Congress furnished the occasion for a general agitation.

The Baltimore American gives a comparison of the votes cast at the elections held this year with those cast at the Presidential election in 1852. For the sake of showing all possible fairness, that paper gives only the majorities obtained by the Democratic candidate for President in 1852 over the united vote of all his competitors. The result is as follows:

Dem. majorities in 1852	Opposition majorities in 1854	Dem. loss in 1854
Maine..... 1,096	23,000	27,086
New Hampshire..... 7,155	6,549	12,655
Vermont..... 405	18,400	4,671
Rhode Island..... 465	6,100	4,300
Connecticut..... 403	3,600	8,400
Iowa..... 7,464	1,500	22,061
Pennsylvania..... 10,922	37,007	47,929
Ohio..... 86,000	70,000	
Missouri..... 8,369	38,180	41,649
Illinois..... 1,872	90,000	91,872
New Jersey..... 5,309	6,575	13,874
Michigan..... 6,097	20,000	20,097
Wisconsin..... 745	15,000	15,745
Minnesota..... 2,604	8,000	10,604

389,291

The annexed table shows the result of the Congressional elections in the same States. In sixteen States (three districts yet to be heard from) 137 members to the next Congress have been chosen. One hundred and eight of these are avowed opponents of the Administration, and twenty-nine only are committed to its support. The following table will exhibit the relative changes which have already taken place:

33d Congress.	Opp.	Adm.	34th Congress.	Opp.	Adm.
Maine..... 3	3	1	5	3	2
Vermont..... 16	9	5	20	9	11
Ohio..... 12	9	3	21	12	9
Indiana..... 10	1	2	9	1	2
Iowa..... 1	1	1	1	1	1
California..... 2	1	1	2	1	1
Florida..... 1	1	1	1	1	1
South Carolina..... 6	1	5	6	1	5
Arkansas..... 2	1	1	2	1	1
Missouri..... 3	4	1	6	3	3
New York..... 23	10	5	28	10	18
New Jersey..... 4	1	3	4	1	3
Michigan..... 6	4	2	6	4	2
Wisconsin..... 3	4	1	3	4	1
Total..... 96	46	20	108	46	20

In the above States the Administration elected two years ago a majority of fifty members. In the same States now they are in a minority of seventy-nine, being a change of 129 in less than two-thirds of the whole House.

\* In Illinois two districts and in Wisconsin one district are yet to be heard from.

A Michigan Democratic paper, speaking of the defeat of a Jolnsburg candidate for Congress, says "he planted himself boldly upon the issue of popular sovereignty and made a splendid run," but he was beaten. It appears from this that the profession of "popular sovereignty" is not always a passport to success in the West more than elsewhere.

## NOBTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE.

This body is to assemble on Monday next. It will be remembered that two Senators of the United States are to be chosen, one to fill the place of Mr. MANGUM, whose term expired in the 3d of March, 1853, and one to succeed Mr. BAILEY, whose term will end on the 4th of March next. It is stated with some degree of confidence that Mr. DOMIN will not be a candidate, but will retain his place as secretary of the Navy. The Fayetteville Observer, referring to the subject, says:

"It will be unquestionably a session of great interest and importance. The elections to be made will be exciting enough, but even they sink into comparative insignificance when compared with other matters which must come forward for decision. Among these we may mention the extension of our system of internal improvements; the settlement of the question of banking capital; and the action upon the entire body of statute laws of the State. The session will be thus greatly protracted, we doubt not. We shall rejoice to find that there is wisdom enough in the body to settle all these various interests in the best manner for the honor and prosperity of the State."

## FINANCES OF VIRGINIA.

J. B. SPOVILL, Esq., Treasurer of the State of Virginia, has furnished a synopsis of the financial operations of his department for the fiscal year ending 30th September, 1854, from which it appears there were—

In the Treasury at October, 1853..... \$331,695 56  
Received (from all sources)..... 8,681,892 80  
Disbursed during the same period..... 8,692,242 31  
Leaving a balance of..... \$321,345 02

WORTHLESSNESS OF PLATFORMS.—The election in the State of New York has demonstrated the worthlessness of platforms. MYER H. CLARK mounted some half dozen of them; and there is not a man in the State who has not seen at least one of them. The "unsuccessful" platform which the "Bo-Sell" Convention constructed for HONORABLE SARNOV was a serious drawback upon his chances had not a liquor law veto rallied to his support the liquor and wine men. Mr. BARRETT'S "Hard" platform was a downright upon him throughout the canvass, and the vote received was rather a personal compliment than an endorsement of the platform. The people are influenced by ing, practical, and present issues, and not by platforms state party doctrines.—N. Y. Sun.

Hon. W. S. AS has been elected President of the Wilmington and High Railroad Company.

The Reading (Hudson River) is making hollow axes for railroad cars, first ever turned out on the continent. They have been scientifically tested and are not liable to fracture under any weight, and last longer than the axles.

## "THE RESULT IN MASSACHUSETTS."

Under this caption we find in the "Union" of yesterday the following article:

"We trust that the Southern people, and especially the Southern Whigs, will carefully scrutinize and deliberate upon the result of Monday's election in Massachusetts. Abolition, religious intolerance, and political proscription have swept the State from the centre to the circumference, and revolutionary doctrines reign supreme. In order to let the South see the platform on which the Know-Nothings have triumphed, (and especially in face of the efforts now making to inculcate the South with that dangerous fanaticism,) we copy the following resolutions adopted by a recent convention of that party before the last election:

"Resolved, That we hail with hope and joy the recent brilliant successes of the republican party in the States of Maine, Iowa, Indiana, Pennsylvania, and Ohio, and we trust these victories are a forerunner of others soon to come, by which the free States shall present one solid phalanx of opposition to the aggressions of slavery."

"Resolved, That in the present chaotic condition of parties in Massachusetts, the only star above the horizon is the love of human liberty and the abhorrence of slavery; and that it is the duty of all and every man to rally around the republican party as an organization which invites the united action of the people on the one transcending question of slave dominion which now divides the Union."

"Whereas Roman Catholicism and slavery, being alike founded and supported on the basis of ignorance and tyranny, and being therefore natural allies in every war against liberty and enlightenment; therefore be it

"Resolved, That there can exist no real hostility to Roman Catholicism which does not embrace slavery, its natural co-worker in opposition to freedom and republican institutions."

By way of arriving at a just conclusion in reference to the strange result which has just happened in Massachusetts, we append in parallel columns the vote of 1852 and the vote at the late election:

1852.	1854.
Whig candidates..... 52,688	Gardner, (K. N.)..... 78,843
Democratic do..... 45,875	Washburn, (Whig)..... 23,135
Proseal do..... 28,023	Bishop, (Dem.)..... 18,193
Webster ticket..... 1,670	Wales, (Repub.)..... 6,518
Native American..... 165	Wales, (old-line Dem.)..... 717
	All others..... 348
	128,416
	125,751

From this table it will be seen that in the recent election the Whig poll has fallen off one-half, and the Democratic vote more than two-thirds. The Know-Nothings, now charged by the Democratic papers (and perhaps with some truth) as embodying the freest sentiments of the State, have received their largest support from the Democratic ranks, to wit, 31,000 votes out of 46,000, whilst the Whigs have furnished them only 26,000 out of 52,000. It is thus apparent that the Democrats on this occasion, being in a minority themselves, have thrown the greater part of their forces into the new organization. In short, they have pursued the same policy by which they have been characterized ever since 1843; but in this case they have not only conspired with the political adversaries of the Massachusetts Whigs, but have actually merged themselves with the Know-Nothings, and thereby endorsed the anti-slavery platform which the Union holds up for the reprobation of the South.

## RESULT IN NEW YORK.

All speculation being suspended to await the official returns, it is useless to give details. The Courier states the following as the complexion of the Legislature:

The Senate consists of thirty-two members, who are elected every odd year; consequently, the present Senate, which was chosen in 1853, will exist one year from the 31st of December next. The political predilections of the Senators are as follows: Whigs 23, Democrats 9. Whig majority 14.

The Assembly is chosen yearly, and is composed of 128 members. Full returns of the result of the late election show that the next Assembly will be composed of 82 Whigs, 43 Democrats, and 3 elected as Temperance candidates. Whig majority over all 36. The Whig majority, on joint ballot, will be seen, is 50.

## THE RESULT IN ILLINOIS.

The Chicago (Democratic) "Times" of the 11th instant states the result of the Congressional election in Illinois differently from what has been reported through the Telegraph. It does not appear to have full returns from all the districts, but confidently announces the result in each as if it had been certainly ascertained. According to its statements the following gentlemen have been elected:

1. ELLIS B. WASHBURN, Whig, re-elected—maj. 4,100.
2. JAR. H. WOODWORTH, Fusionist—majority 3,000.
3. JOHN O. NORTON, Whig, re-elected—majority 2,500.
4. JAMES KNOX, Whig, re-elected—majority 2,000.
5. W. A. RICHARDSON, Democrat, re-elected.
6. THOMAS L. HARRIS, Dem.: elected over YATES, Whig.
7. JAMES C. ALLEN, Democrat, re-elected.
8. LYMAN TOWNSEND, Anti-Nebraska Democrat.
9. S. S. MARSHALL, Nebraska Democrat.

In the Legislature the Democrats have nine Senators holding over, and a chance for five others, making a majority. In the House the Fusionists have a large majority.

## NEW JERSEY ELECTION.

The Newark Daily Advertiser publishes returns from all parts of New Jersey, which show the following results of the election for Members of Congress:

1852.	W.	D.	1854.	W.	D.
1. Stratton, Dem.	—	309	Clayton, W.	—	2,200
2. Skilton, Dem.	—	991	Robbins, W.	—	2,401
3. Lilly, Dem.	—	1,875	Bishop, W.	—	1,907
4. Vall, Dem.	—	2,292	Vall, D.	—	625
5. Pennington, Whig	137	—	Pennington, W.	1,200	—
	107	6,215		7,000	15,023
		107			528

Democratic majority 1852 6,048 Whig maj. 1854 6,973

It will be seen by this table that the loss to the Democratic party in the State of New Jersey since 1852 is upwards of 13,000.

The funeral ceremonies of Mrs. ALEXANDER HAMILTON, who died in this city on Thursday week took place on Sunday last at Trinity Church, in the city of New York.

CINCINNATI FINANCIAL TROUBLES.—We learn from the Cincinnati Gazette of Saturday that matters had assumed a more quiet appearance in the neighborhood of Third street. The Gazette says:

"The notes of the Clinton Bank of Columbus, the City Bank of Columbus, and the Canal Bank of Cleveland were not current to-day. From Monday to Wednesday night last (three days) \$270,000 of the notes of the free banks of Indiana were returned to the Auditor's office and cancelled, and the stockholders delivered to the banks. The returns are not less than \$50,000 every day. The circulation is now reduced to \$5,000,000."

RUSSIAN PRISONERS IN ENGLAND.—Two hundred and four of the late garrison at Aland are confined at Lewes. The men are Finlanders, but the officers, although Russian born, are descendants of French and German families. The officers are permitted out on parole. A large shed has been fitted up for the men to make up toys for sale to the public; and here may be seen a considerable number of them seated on the ground cutting out of single pieces of wood with knife blades, representations of crowns of thorns, and puzzles. Most all the men speak three languages—Turkish, Swedish, and Russ. The London Times says:

"If a comparison were made between the prisoners now in this jail and one of our regiments we almost fear that the 'Northern barbarians' would carry off the palm. The majority of them are not only able to read, but can write tolerably well, particularly the sergeants and other subordinate officers."

## MR. SOULE'S DIFFICULTY.

Late English papers, and from them some of our own, have recently contained references to an alleged difficulty interposed by the French Government to the return of the American Minister, Mr. SOULE, to Spain through the French territory. The affair was so obscurely alluded to that, added to the known fact that Mr. S. has lately been spending some time in Paris, which he of course reached by travelling through French territory, we gave the story but little credence. It seemed to us very improbable that the French Government would permit a man, however offensive or suspected, to approach the capital through France; and then refuse him leave to quit the country by the same way. Private letters, however, which we received from London by the steamer of the 1st instant, have enlightened us on the subject. Mr. SOULE, it appears, had gone from France to England, and it was permission to pass from that country through France back to Spain which was refused by the French authorities. We have since received from our regular Paris correspondent the letter which is subjoined, and which should have reached us the day previous. This letter we have no doubt presents the leading facts of Mr. SOULE'S case correctly. Its statements are corroborated by those of another respectable American sojourning in Paris, whose letter will be found on another page, and may be relied on as substantially correct. We have reason to believe, indeed, that these letters embrace the material particulars of all that had transpired on the 30th ultimo, the latest date from Paris. A great many particulars connected with the affair are given in letters and papers from Europe, but they are of a nature not readily to have been made public, if true, and are hardly to be relied on. Our Government paper, the Union, publishes a letter it has received from London, which states that "our Minister, Mr. MASON, was treated with rude incivility when he asked for an official explanation in regard to the indignity offered to Mr. SOULE."

We trust that this statement will turn out to be unfounded; for we are sure that the department of no Minister could less invite incivility than that of Mr. MASON, and we should be disposed less easily to excuse an act of official rudeness towards him than the brusque expulsion of Mr. SOULE, as in the latter case there might have been reason, real or imaginary, for the incivility.

The London Times, in an article on the subject, places the expulsion of Mr. SOULE on purely personal grounds; and there is no doubt (says the New York Express) that on these grounds alone Mr. SOULE was refused a traverse through France. Indeed, the Paris correspondent of the very paper through which Mr. SANDERS addresses the public says:

"Some weeks ago the Minister of Foreign Affairs intimated to Mr. MASON, informally, that he should be gratified if he (Mr. M.) would privately prevent Mr. SOULE from coming to France. Mr. MASON naturally did not accede to the request. Last Thursday, being at the Ministry upon other business, and yet ignorant of the stoppage of Mr. SOULE, he asked Mr. DUBOIS DE L'ETRE why he had desired that Mr. S. be advised to avoid France. The Minister replied that THEY had proof of his HAVING EXPRESSED HOSTILITY TO THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE."

This hostility (says the Express) was very freely expressed not only in the south of France, when Mr. SOULE was there, but in Lyons, when Mr. SOULE there got into difficulty with the policeman, and afterwards in other parts of France.

Public opinion in this country on the subject has had as yet little opportunity to manifest itself. Turning to the New York Evening Post, among the ablest of Democratic journals, and with as little liking for the Emperor of France or Emperors in general as any other journal of its party, we find an article on the treatment of Mr. SOULE and of the general question involved, from which we extract the annexed passages:

"We do not by any means agree with those who are attempting to exalt this affair into an insult offered by the French Government to that of the United States. Mr. Soule was not in France in any official capacity; he was not accredited to its Government; he did not in any manner represent our country within its limits; in France he was simply an American citizen. The stopping of Mr. Soule at the frontier was no more an insult to our nation than if he had been the inventor of a sewing machine who was taking it out to Paris to secure a patent for it."

"It frequently happens that Americans are stopped by the police in European countries and turned back in their journey, with less reason probably than there was in the case of Mr. Soule. It strikes us that these cases ought to be first dispatched by our Government."

"If Mr. Soule had no other way of proceeding to Spain from London except through France the case would be a clear one: we would fight for the right of way. But the Southampton steamers offer a most convenient method of reaching Spain without coming in sight of France. The voyage is performed with great dispatch, and he might have had his choice of a dozen landing places on the Spanish or Portuguese coast. What official necessity takes him into France, that we should insist upon his going thither?"

"We make these remarks not for the purpose of justifying in the least degree the French Sovereign in the step he has taken, but for the sake of putting the affair upon its true footing. Mr. Soule is a person who naturally fell under the observation of the French police. He was believed in France to have meddled with the politics of Spain, and to have been concerned in fomenting a revolt against the Government. He has recently been in Paris, where it is not at all likely that his language and behavior were of a kind to encourage loyalty towards the Emperor. He is a Frenchman by birth—eloquent, persuasive, imprudent, and endowed with a marvellous faculty of getting into scrapes. He got into several in Spain, and he is now in another with Louis Bonaparte, between whom and himself this is a personal matter, and no more an insult to our nation than the case of a Frenchman brought before our police courts can be."

## FROM OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT.

PARIS, OCTOBER 30, 1854.

All friends of peace and international harmony will regret that just as the unpleasant affair of the arrest of the French Consul at San Francisco, which threatened for a moment to interrupt the friendly relations of the United States with France, is announced as satisfactorily arranged, another incident should have occurred of quite a menacing character in its bearings upon those relations. But this time, I am most happy to say, the right appears to be on our side, and the reparation to be due from France.

The Government of his Imperial Majesty has thought expedient to adopt the unceremonious and harsh measure of arresting, on his way through French territory to the Court to which he was accredited, and expelling from France, an American diplomatic functionary of the highest rank known to our laws. And more: The individual in question, thus clothed with a character which, by the comity of nations, should of itself have exempted him from the operation of any personal antipathy of which he might be the object, was the bearer of public despatches from the American Legation in London, and perhaps from the Government in Washington, to the American Legation in Paris. The despatches were not allowed to proceed to their destination, and the bearer was obliged to take them back with him to London. Here is *prima facie* grave matter of offence. But let me hasten to say that the testimony as yet is all *pari passu*. Americans here will wait with much interest further developments. The facts of the case, with names and dates, are, so far as yet known, simply these. My readers will doubtless have understood already that Mr. SOULE, the American representative at the Court of Madrid, is the gentleman whose peregrinations have provoked the above proceedings on the part of France.

It seems that upon the breaking up of the mysterious Congress of American Diplomats, held recently at Ostend, Mr. SOULE proceeded to London. Last week, (24th October,) having got through with the business that took him to England, he set out upon his return to Spain. The usually taken and most convenient route lies through France and Paris. Mr. SOULE took it, and on his arrival at Calais, in France, Mr. SOULE left the boat in which he had crossed the channel and was proceeding with the other passengers to take railway for Paris. But no sooner was his foot upon French soil than he was stopped by a policeman, who intimated to him that he must immediately return to the boat, and with the boat to England; that passage through or sojourn in France was positively forbidden to him.

"But, sir, I am the Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to the Court of Spain, and I am directly 'on my way to my post.'"

"We are aware of your diplomatic character, but we are nevertheless ordered not to allow you to proceed. You must return to the boat."

"I am not only Minister of the United States to Spain, but I am the bearer of Government despatches to the American Legation in Paris. Here is my passport as such, and there are my despatches."

The official of the French police hesitated a moment. It seemed to occur to him that by the law of nations the statement of the question, as just put by Mr. SOULE, presented an unexpected and embarrassing incident. But it probably occurred to him that the laws of nations could not be held to bind his master any more than the constitution and laws of France. At any rate he replied to Mr. SOULE that his passport as bearer of despatches would not avail him; that he must immediately return to England.

"May I not send my courier into Paris with my despatches?" replied the Minister.

"No; your despatches must go back with you to England."

There was no remedy. Mr. SOULE had to submit, and did return to London. Thence he communicated his mishap by letter to our Minister in Paris, Mr. MASON. The latter gentleman immediately dispatched his Secretary of Legation, Mr. PIATT, to London, to learn particulars more fully and confer with Mr. SOULE. Upon Mr. P.'s return with confirmation of the facts as above stated, Mr. MASON immediately made the affair matter of a note to the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, asking from him an explanation of this conduct towards a man clothed with the character of representative of the United States. Mr. MASON'S note has not yet been replied to.

I have been informed further, and believe, that in a private conversation just prior to the 24th between Mr. MASON and the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, the latter intimated that Mr. SOULE would not be allowed to return through France, and Mr. M. was informally requested to signify the same to Mr. S. Our worthy Minister here very properly declined to consider any other than an official and formal proposition from the French functionary. None was made; but in reply to an inquiry of Mr. MASON as to the causes of this official antipathy to Mr. SOULE, which it was proposed to display so offensively, it was said that Mr. SOULE was the notorious and avowed enemy of the existing order of things in France.

I give the above facts, which I have no doubt are substantially true. But, as remarked above, they present to us only one side of the case, and I shall look with anxiety for the facts on the other side, which must be grave, indeed, to justify the disrespect offered in the person of Mr. SOULE to the dignity of the United States.

I cannot help fearing that the present difficulty is brought about with something like premeditation by Mr. SOULE. I am sorry to believe that in furtherance of his ultra political views he would not be unwilling to embroil the United States in a European war.

An article in the London Times, on the case of Mr. SOULE, has excited a good deal of attention, both in England and on this side, from a supposition that it expresses the opinion of the British Government. Whether this supposition be well or ill-founded, the article is distinguished by ability and an apparent familiarity with the question. We therefore give it to our readers:

FROM THE LONDON TIMES OF OCTOBER 30.

The French Government have taken an unusual though not an unwarrantable step, when all the facts of the case are known, in declining to allow Mr. Soule, the Minister of the United States accredited to Madrid, to enter the territories of the French Empire. We understand that this gentleman expressed himself in very strong language upon his return to London, after an ineffectual attempt to continue his journey through France, from Calais or Boulogne, and that the personal affront to which Mr. Soule conceives himself to have been subjected has been taken up as an affair of national and political importance by Mr. MASON, the American Chargé d'Affaires in Paris, and by Mr. Buchanan, the American Minister in this country. It is to be regretted that men who are intrusted with the important and responsible duty of representing such a country as the United States in Europe should display so much sensitiveness on so paltry an occasion. Whatever affront may befall Mr. Soule have been occasioned by himself since he set foot in Europe, and, while he has forfeited his claim to the courtesy usually shown to strangers, he can claim no especial consideration for his diplomatic character, which is, of course, confined to the country to which he is accredited.

The circumstances of this case are, however, peculiar, and there is reason to apprehend that they will give rise to some discussion. In the first place, Mr. Soule is by birth a Frenchman, and although he has done all that lay in his power to repudiate his national character and to assume that of a citizen of the United States, it can hardly be contended that the French Government is bound to take no account of his origin, or to regard him precisely as it would a citizen of Boston or New Orleans. In adopting a new country, it would at least have been good taste if Mr. Soule had not forgotten that he owed something to the land of his birth. The United States not only adopted him, but raised him to the honorable position of one of their Ministers abroad, and President Pierce selected him as his representative in Spain apparently because he had identified himself with the party which did not disguise its intentions upon Cuba. With the political effects of such a nomination we are not here concerned; but no sooner had Mr. Soule arrived at Madrid, where he was received in official society, than his son contrived to pick a ridiculous quarrel with the Duke of Alba, at the house of M. de Turgot, the French Ambassador, which was followed by a duel with M. de Turgot himself, in which that gentleman was most dangerously wounded. The outrage thus offered to the brother-in-law of the Emperor of the French and to his Ambassador was not only not a fortuitous circumstance. The career of Messrs. Soule, both father and son, in Madrid continued in the same course both in politics and in society. They freely associated with the revolutionary leaders in different parts of Europe. The Spanish Government were satisfied that they traced the active participation of Mr. Soule in some of the disturbances which occurred in Madrid shortly before he left that capital. In the south of France, while Mr. Soule visited for a short time in the course of the summer, he held without disguise language with reference to the head of the French Government which was at least as indecorous in the accredited representative of an ally. State, and more recently he has been playing a part in a so-called conference of American

Ministers at Brussels, where, if we are rightly informed, the chief topics of discussion were not exclusively of American interest. In short, Mr. Soule had done what he could to obtain an unenviable notoriety in society and in politics, and he can hardly complain if he is regarded in the character he has been so anxious to assume.

The French Government, under all preceding régimes, as well as the present, have possessed and exercised the right of excluding from the territory of France such persons as they did not think fit to admit. Not long ago, for instance, Mr. Kosuth was informed, on his arrival at Marseilles, that he would not be allowed to enter the country. The other day, upon Mr. Soule's landing at Calais or Boulogne, he was politely informed by the police that orders had arrived not to allow him to proceed. No objection was made to his passport, and no reason was assigned for this decision beyond the will of the French Government. Some expostulation followed, and a reference was made by telegraph to the authorities in Paris, who confirmed the refusal of the local police. So Mr. Soule was compelled, *in effect*, to re-cross the channel and to return to this country, which is perfectly indiscriminate in its toleration of who may reach its shores. No one, we imagine, will see much reason to pity Mr. Soule's wrongs. If he has been affronted, the exception made to his prejudice is obviously on personal grounds, and has nothing to do with his public character, which was not involved in the question. It would be absurd to contend that he has any right to enter the French territory, for whatever right he may have possessed as a French citizen was waived by his own act, and he may console himself with the reflection that thousands of better men than himself are just now excluded from that soil to which they profess warm attachments. He should, however, be content to accept of a private affair, and though he happens to hold the commission of a Minister of the United States in Spain, he has no public or official character in France or any other country.

We advert to the subject because we find that there is some disposition on the part of the Ministers of the United States here and in Paris to give an importance to this affair which it does not possess, and to demand explanations and redress for a measure which the French Government had a perfect right to take if it thought fit. We hope that we may be permitted to tell these Ministers, in a friendly spirit, that if they do really resort to violent measures for such a cause they will not be supported by public opinion in Europe, or probably in the United States. It cannot be supposed that the American people are insensible to the inconvenience of appointing as their envoys in Europe men who set every rule of social and political life at defiance, who enter with gentlemen of character and station only to insult and assail them, and then fall back into that congenial society which has been thrown on our shores by the political convulsions of former years. No class of statesmen has been more favorably received or more generally respected in Europe than the Ministers of the United States, when they brought with them the qualities which may be reasonably expected in men filling their position; but it is too much to require that the mere title of an American Minister should exempt such a person as Mr. Soule has shown himself to be from the penalties which attach to his conduct.

## FROM NORFOLK TO CADIZ.

We give below the suggestions of a practical and sagacious writer. If his plan is not adopted now, it will be whenever railroad communication is established between Cadiz and France, via Madrid:

The interesting letters of Lieut. MAURY, three of which have been published in the National Intelligencer, concerning the capabilities of Virginia for profitable internal improvement, are attracting much attention. The port of Norfolk is clearly shown to be the most central harbor in the United States.

Mr. MAURY has explained how the commercial importance of this place has been superseded by New York, viz. by the supineness of Virginia and the activity of New York.

But Virginia is reviving now; her railroads will soon penetrate every part of the State and reach the Ohio river, and then the port of Norfolk and all the ports of the Chesapeake will begin to be extensive marts for commerce.

In addition to internal trade, foreign commerce is necessary to build up great cities, and that of New York has at present almost a monopoly. To compete with her the cities bordering on the waters of the Chesapeake should have a line of steamships running to Europe.

We want Mr. MAURY'S suggestions for the internal improvements carried into effect, and we want also a steamship line such as was proposed by Mr. FLETCHER, of Kalamazoo, several years ago. His plan was, if we recollect rightly, that Baltimore should build one vessel, the District of Columbia (including Alexandria) one, Richmond and Petersburg one, and Norfolk and Portsmouth one: these to be united in a monthly line between Norfolk and Cadiz, (by way of the Azores), and from thence, if thought advantageous, to Constantinople. But, as Mr. MAURY says, the thinking men are ten years ahead of the Legislatures. It may be several years before a charter can be obtained for this line of steamers, which would unite the waters of the Chesapeake Bay with the Mediterranean Sea.

ONE WEEK LATER FROM CALIFORNIA.

The steamer Northern Light arrived at New York yesterday morning, bringing California dates to the 24th ultimo (one week later than the advices by the North Star) and about